

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Integrity - Service - Excellence

Air Force Blood Program Update

**Chief, Air Force Blood
Program**

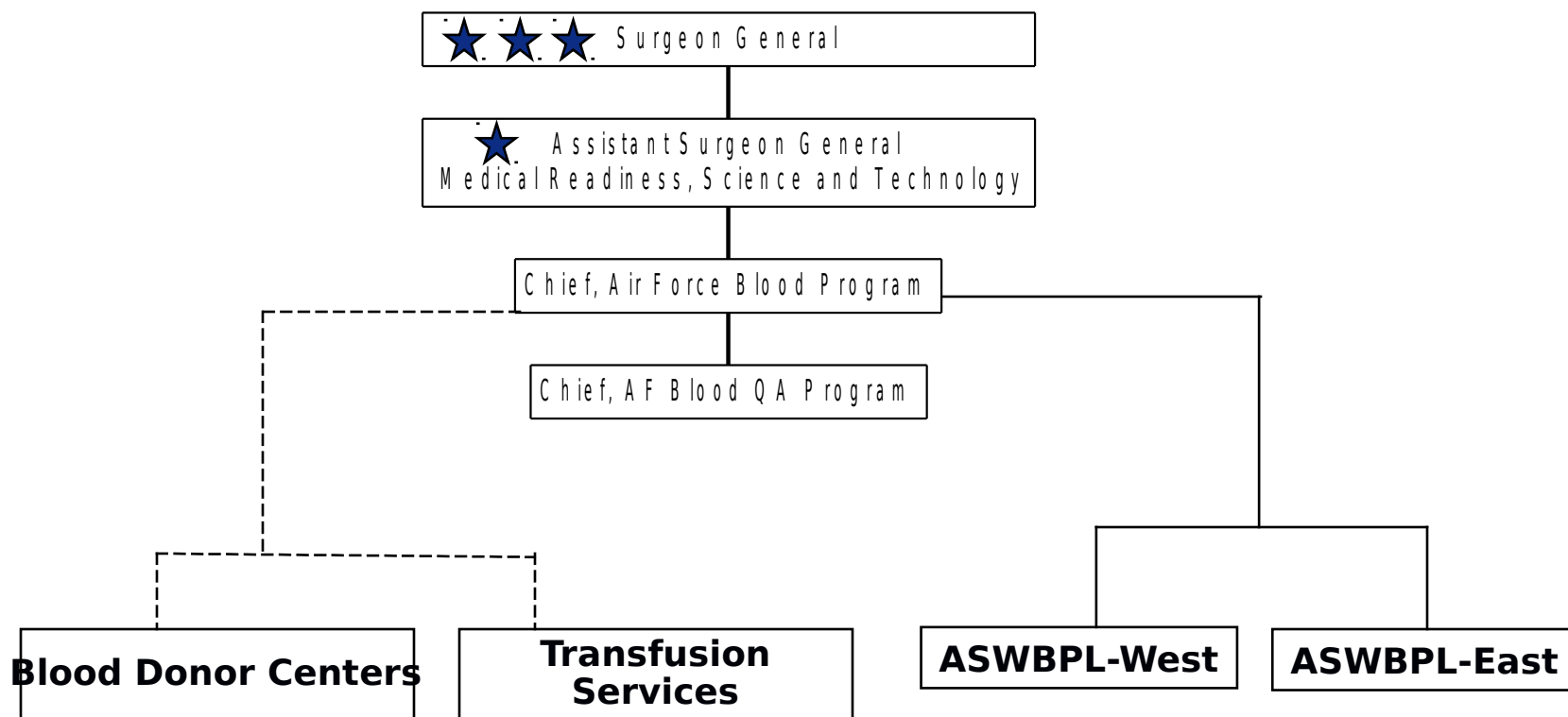


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Organization Structure

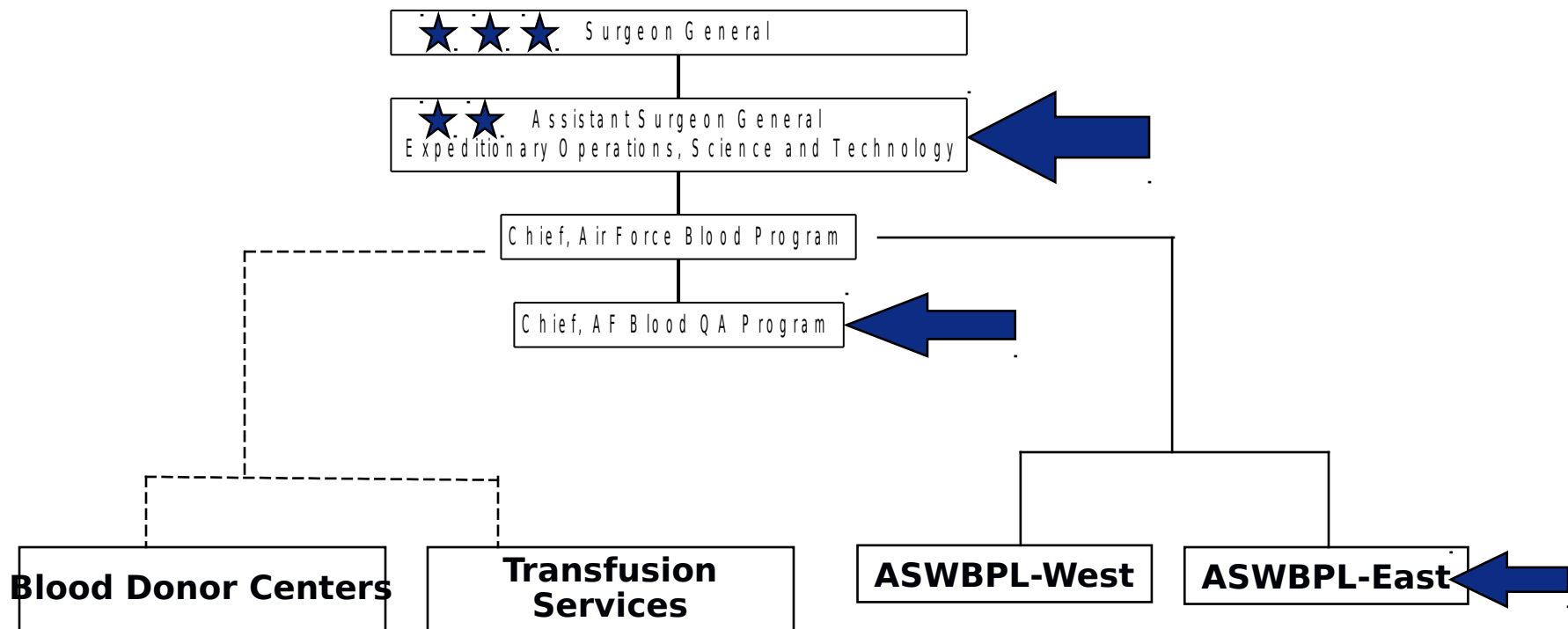


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Organization Structure



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Air Force Blood Program

- **Essential Readiness Mission**
 - **Wartime Requirements - 550 units/day**
 - **Peacetime ASWBPL Contingency Requirement - 288 units/month**

- **AF Missions**
 - **Blood Donor Centers - 8 licensed, 3 satellite collection sites**
 - **Armed Services Whole Blood Processing Laboratories**
 - **Blood Transshipment Centers/TBTCs**
 - **Frozen Blood in PACAF**

- **FDA Considers Blood a “Manufacturing” Industry**
 - **Biologics License 610 - USAF is an Establishment**
 - **Must Comply with CFR and Good Manufacturing Practices**
 - **Bi-Annual Quality Audits of Donor Centers**



Air Force Blood Program

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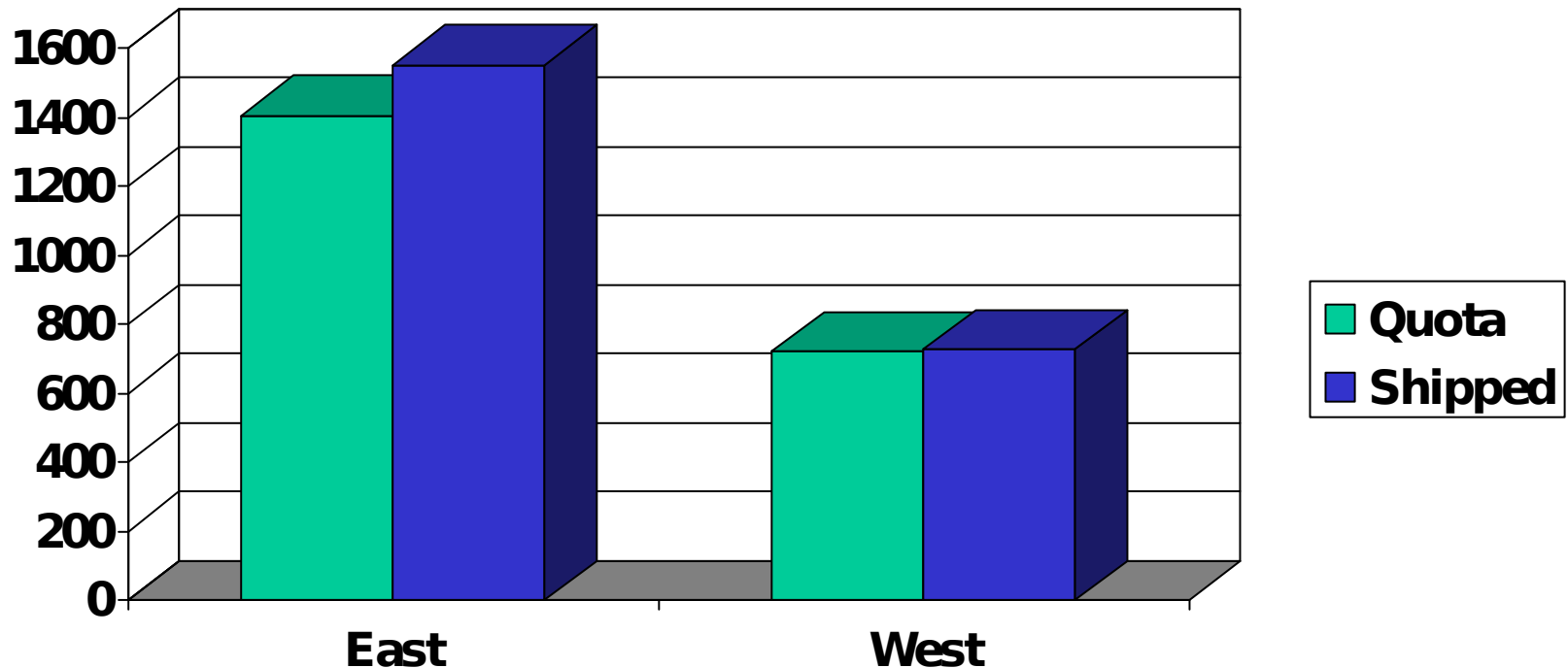
- **Essential Readiness Mission**
 - **Wartime Requirements - 550 units/day**
 - **Peacetime ASWBPL Contingency Requirement - 288 units/month**
 - **New ASWBPL Contingency Quota - 485 units/month**
- **AF Missions**
 - **Blood Donor Centers - 8 licensed, 3 satellite collection sites**
 - **Armed Services Whole Blood Processing Laboratories**
 - **Blood Transshipment Centers/TBTCs**
 - **Frozen Blood in PACAF**
- **FDA Considers Blood a “Manufacturing” Industry**
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ASWBPL Quota Compliance

USAF Compliance Since 22 Oct 01





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Air Force Blood Program

- **Future Challenges - Before 11 Sep 01**
 - **American Red Cross deferral for variant CJD**
 - **3 months in UK or 6 months in Europe since 1980**
 - **Requires supplying EUCOM from CONUS**
 - **Must make up 25% reduction in available donors**
 - **DoD needs to collect 100,000 units/year**
 - **Frozen Blood**
 - **Replace current inventory with new technology**
 - **Thawed/deglycerolized will be good for 14 days**
 - **Rethink distribution system**
- **Good Manufacturing and Quality Practices will drive our strategic decisions**



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11 Sep Timeline

On that morning:

- **Chief, Air Force Blood Program in New York City, emergency leave**
- **Air Force Blood Quality Assurance Program Chief, recently assigned to Bolling AFB, DC at home receiving HHG**
- **Outgoing AF Blood QA Program Chief, recently assigned to DBSS Project Office at Skyline, Falls Church, VA**



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11 Sep Timeline

- **When 2nd plane hit WTC, realization of an attack**
- **USAF/SG office evacuated and relocated**
 - **AF Blood Operations established at ASBPO**
 - **Blood inputs coordinated for the AF Crisis Action Team**
 - **Communications disrupted**
 - **Cell phones overloaded**
 - **Land lines down between DC and NYC**
 - **Transportation disrupted**
 - **All civil aircraft grounded**
 - **All bridges and tunnels into and out of NYC closed**



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11 Sep Timeline

- **Air Force Blood Quality Assurance Program Chief arrives at ASBPO and is acting AF SBPO**
- **Wilford Hall, Keesler and Wright-Patterson able to continue operations because of local testing**
 - **Shipment of blood not possible at first**
- **Other donor centers do not have testing readily available**
- **Land telephone to NYC inoperable**
 - **Cell phone to AF Blood Program Chief works**
 - **Communications with NY Blood Center established by calling AF Blood Program Chief on cell phone and relaying message by land line within NYC**
- **Overwhelming donor turnout causes blood storage problems**
 - **NY Blood Center requests assistance from DoD for storage**



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CAP Missions for ONE

11-17 Sep 01

- **#RI-18-01** was issued to Rhode Island CAP to support transport of blood by air.
- **#ID-21-01** was issued to Idaho CAP to support Red Cross in flying blood samples to San Diego CA for testing prior to shipment to disaster area.
- **#CA-22-01** was issued to California CAP to fly blood samples for Red Cross to lab in San Diego prior to shipment to disaster area.
- **#OR-24-01**, issued to Oregon CAP to fly blood from Boise to San Diego.
- **#NM-25-01**, issued to New Mexico CAP to fly blood from Albuquerque, NM to Phoenix, AZ.
- **#OR-30-01**, move test tubes from Portland to San Diego and blood from Portland, OR, to Los Angeles, CA.
- **#WY-31-01**, move blood from Cheyenne, WY, to Rapid City, SD.
- **#UT-32-01**, move blood from Salt Lake City, UT, to San Diego, CA.
- **#RI-34-01**, move blood from Providence to Morristown for transshipment to Tampa.
- **#OR-35-01**, move blood from Portland to Great Falls.



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Other ONE Support Activities

- **Oklahoma ANG flies 1600 units of blood to ASWBPL-East for transport to NYC**
- **NY Blood Center requests ASWBPL-East store excess units**
- **ARC requests ASWBPL-West store excess units**
- **Blood Centers nationally have excess blood on hand due to overwhelming donor response**
 - **Plan to employ new Haemonetics 215 enacted to attempt to salvage as many units as possible before expiration**



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Air Force Blood Program

- **Future Challenges - After 11 Sep 01**
 - **Medical Readiness, Good Manufacturing and Quality Practices will drive our strategic decisions**
 - **FDA deferral for variant CJD**
 - **3 months in UK between 1980 & 1996**
 - **For DoD, 6 months in Europe between 1980 & 1996**
 - **5 years in Europe since 1980**
 - **People affected between 1980 & 1996 will decrease**
 - **Frozen Blood**
 - **Replace current inventory with new technology**
 - **Thawed/deglycerolized will be good for 14 days**
 - **Rethink distribution system**
 - **Get it started now**



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Lab & Blood Program

UTC's

- **ASWBPL - FFBAaA***
 - Four 6 person teams
- **CONUS BDC - FFBAAb***
 - Five 15 person teams
- **OCONUS BDC - FFBAAc***
 - Three 12 person teams
- **Frozen Blood - FFBD1**
 - Seven 12 person teams
- **TBTC - FFBTP**
 - Five 12 person teams
- **OCONUS BDC (Aug) - FFLGC**
 - Three 9 person teams
- **BTC - FFLGD**
 - Eighteen 6 person teams
 - One lab tech
- **Biological Augmentation Team - FFBAT**
 - 38 two person teams
- **Lab Augmentation - FFBU2**
 - 19 one tech packages
- **Lab Augmentation - FFBU3**
 - 8 one officer packages
- **EMEDS +10 - FFEP3**
 - 40 two person teams
- **EMEDS +25 - FFEP4**
 - 29 one tech teams
- **Homeland Security - proposed**
 - 48 two person "BAT-like" teams



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Lab & Blood Program UTC's

- **Blood Program Manpower**
 - **301 Lab Techs assigned to a blood UTC**
 - **23 Lab Officers assigned to a blood UTC**
- **Other Laboratory Manpower**
 - **174 Lab Techs assigned to a lab UTC**
 - **134 Lab Officers assigned to a lab UTC**
- **Total Laboratory Manpower on a UTC**
 - **475 Lab Techs assigned to a UTC**
 - **157 Lab Officers assigned to a UTC**



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Business Case Analysis

- **ASBPO has contracted for a BCA of the ASBP**
- **Preliminary report indicates that small AF BDC's have the highest cost per unit collected**
- **BCA does not evaluate the readiness benefit of these BDC's**
 - **Does state that there is a training value**
- **Must determine if small donor centers provide an adequate source of trained donor center technicians for augmenting other donor centers**



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Frozen Blood Project

- **New cell washers allow post-thaw storage of frozen red cells up to 14 days**
- **True walk-away capability**
- **Allows better utilization of units**
- **Fewer technicians required to operate**
- **Can now store units frozen and ship thawed/washed**
- **ASWBPL can be central freezing/thawing**
- **Remote OCONUS sites can use product everyday**
- **Project initiated 17 Sep 01**



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Lessons of 11 Sep

- **Contingency plans are good to have**
 - **Without air transportation, need alternate testing sites**
 - **Needed creativity to deal with communication outage**
- **Training in contingency operations is good to do**
 - **Everyone knew what needed to be done and did it**
 - **Invaluable when key personnel are unavailable**
- **Flexibility, ingenuity, creativity essential**

Questions?



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